



LAB ABSENCES

For most labs, there are no make-up labs during or after school

When a student has an excused absence, the following options are available:

1. Make-up lab with another class.
2. Take a quiz on the lab (procedure, content, calculations, conclusions), PLUS, complete an extra assignment as given by the instructor.
3. Students will be permitted two excused labs per year (for *excused* absences only). There will be no penalty and no grade given. The grade will be omitted from the total points. Students who have extended absences must make arrangements with the teacher. *NOTE: Some "really important" labs cannot be excused--these are exceptions to the rule. Such labs often involve a full lab report or presentation, and include content that may be on a test. These can, and will, be made up.*

Arrangements for missing labs must be arranged ASAP upon return to school—do not wait to schedule.

Reasons for these lab policies are as follows:

1. Students must realize that in being absent, they have missed the lab experience, just as they might miss a video, a presentation, a guest speaker, a test review, etc. There WILL NOT be a penalty for legitimate absences, since many absences cannot be avoided. Where possible an alternative assignment may be given (such as 1- 3 above).
2. Some labs require more than one student to perform the work involved. If the required number of students are not available, then the lab cannot be done.
3. After school labs are difficult to schedule with students in sports, clubs, jobs, and other commitments. The teacher's after school schedule may not coincide with the student's schedule, due to meetings, clubs, and other commitments.
4. If a teacher has more than one subject to teach, this would mean twice, or three times the number of make-up labs, to accommodate students in different courses. This results in equipment and scheduling problems, since it is very difficult to run several labs at the same time.
5. Lab make-ups during school are not possible, since the science rooms are not available, and labs also require the teacher to supervise, for safety reasons.
6. Once a class has completed a lab, it is necessary to clean up, put away equipment and supplies. So, they are not available for make-ups.